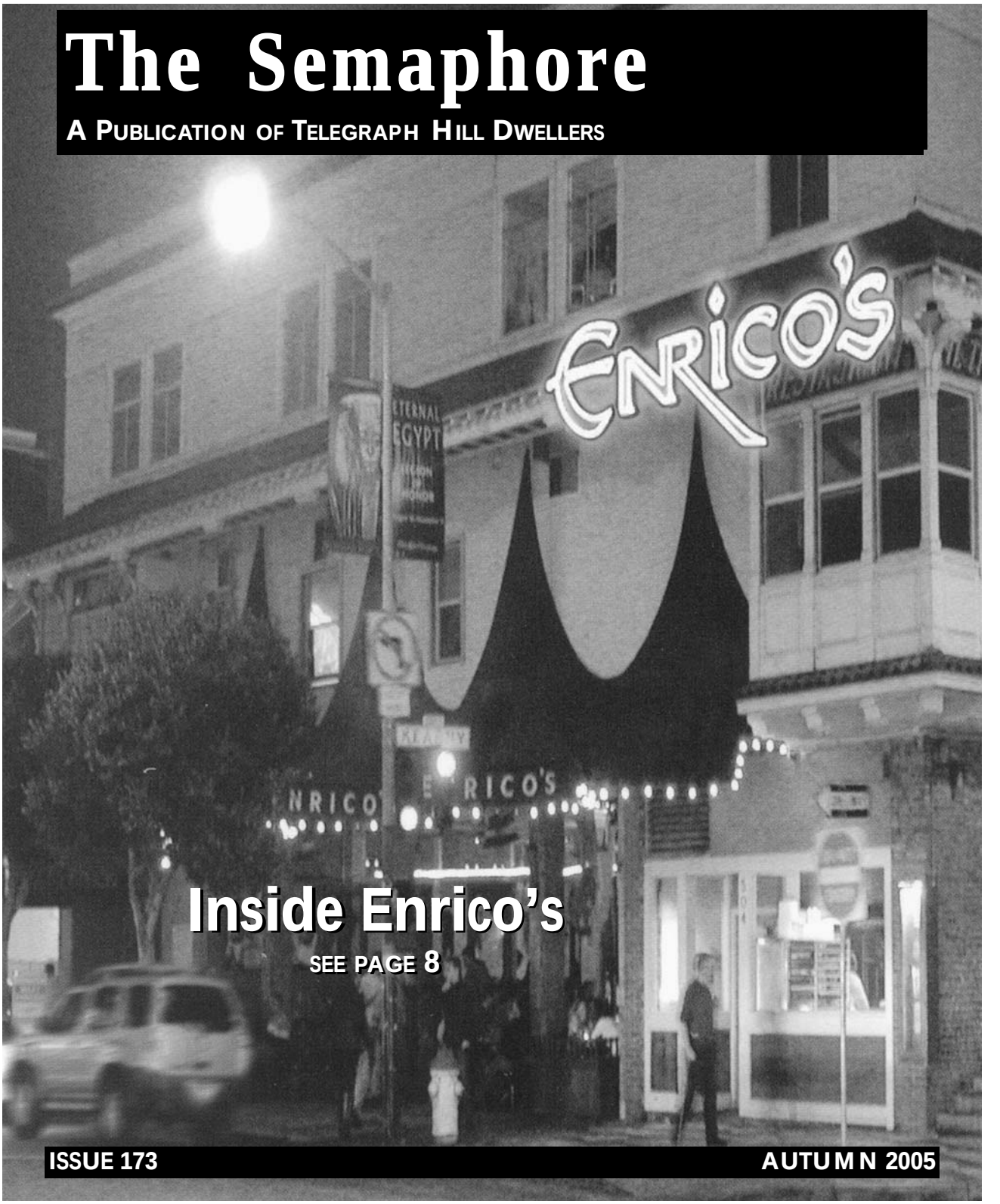
The Semaphore

A Publication of Telegraph Hill Dwellers



Inside Enrico's

SEE PAGE 8

ISSUE 173 AUTUMN 2005

TELEGRAPH HILL DWELLERS

Voice Mail/Hotline: 273-1004. Fax: 255-6499. Web Site: www.thd.org
P.O. Box 330159 • San Francisco, CA 94133

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2004-2005

President: Brad Willmore, 31 Alta St., 955-8901, president@thd.org

Vice President: Vedica Puri, 111 Chestnut St., #601, 391-5880, vpuri@pillsburylevinson.com

Recording Sec'y: Mary Lipian, 1304 Montgomery, 391-5652, lipianmw@aetna.com

Corresponding Sec'y: Kathleen Dooley, 216 Filbert., #1, 433-6932 info@columbinedesign.com

Treasurer: Greg Chiampou 345 Filbert, #3, 834-9338 gchiampou@att.net

Financial Sec'y: Sarah Kliban 463 Chestnut St., 781-2278 casting@value.net

Historian: Nancy Shanahan, 224 Filbert, 986-7094, nshan@mindspring.com

Archivist: Rozell Overmire, 19 Alta, 989-3945, rozell@ureach.com

Immediate Past President: Paul Scott, 26 Darrell Pl., 981-5112, pdscott@sbcglobal.net

SEMAPHORE STAFF:

Editor: Art Peterson, 101A Telegraph Hill, 956-7817, apeterson@writingproject.org .

Copy Editor: Tony Long, 362-8363 alittlechinmusic@yahoo.com

Business Manager: Gail Switzer, 341 Filbert, 788-8667, gail_switzer@yahoo.com

Typesetting/Design: Chris Carlsson, Cloverleaf Productions., 608-9035 ccarlsson@shapingsf.org

DIRECTORS 2004-2006

Joe Butler, 324 Chestnut, 956-5307, fjosephbutler@hotmail.com

Patsy Chan, 504 Greenwich, 391-1187, pvc@ac8.com

Wells Whitney, 1308 Montgomery, 398-5077

Stan Teng, 333 Greenwich St., #2, 986-2626, stanarch@earthlink.net

DIRECTORS 2004-2005

Mikkel Aaland, 543 Greenwich St., 392-7742, maaland@cyberbohemia.com

Joseph Alioto, 26 Belair, 902-5346, jalioto@hotmail.com

Jennifer Moerer, 5 Edith Street, 265-0317, jmoerer@gmail.com

Marc Bruno, 15 Nobles Alley, 434-1528, marcabruno@yahoo.com

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Corner 3
Changing Lives: North Beach Citizens 7
Tales of the Neighborhood: Inside Enrico's 8
Community Benefit Districts 10
Postponement of 39-Coit Traffic-Jam Trial 12
From the Oral History Project:
Dick Monaco Speaks 13
The Blue Angels Pro and Con 16
Supervisor Peskin Reports 19
THD Financial Statement 21
New Shop at Shrine of St. Francis 22
Tutors Needed at Garfield School 23
The Oral History Program 26
Board of Directors: Motions Passed 29
New Members 30
THD Committees Need You 31
THD Calendar 32

Cover: Enrico's, c. 1995, see page 8 (photo: www.acedesign.com

Apologies to the Monaco family: on page 8 of the last issue a photograph of the Gray Bros. Quarry at Sansome and Green was published without attribution. It was taken by J.B. Monaco.

Printed on Recycled paper

The Semaphore is a publication of the Telegraph Hill Dwellers for its members. Articles, except for the summary of Board of Directors' Motions, do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Association or its Officers, but are the opinions of the writers of the individual signed articles. The Association can take no responsibility for their content. This membership publication is not to be reprinted or disseminated without written permission.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy Hour on Grant Avenue

by Brad Willmore

Upper Grant Avenue has had its share of bad times. For years competition from the weekend Broadway bar and adult businesses has threatened to overwhelm our little retail street, and as high rents drove out one neighborhood serving retailer after another, things were looking pretty bleak for this important corner of our world. Many of you know the long hours that THD volunteers have put in to protecting upper Grant Avenue; from cleaning up after the weekend bar traffic, to lobbying for legislation to preserve small shop and café spaces. Sometimes it seemed like THD was the only organization standing with the shopkeepers in defense of upper Grant Avenue. Well, while there is still much to do, things are finally looking up. With a new merchants association, new businesses on the avenue and more pedestrian traffic, the daytime retail life of upper Grant Avenue is improving.

In this edition of the Semaphore you'll find the new marketing brochure for the upper Grant Avenue shopping district. Designed by Kristina dePizzol of Delilah Crown, and sponsored by members of the new North Beach Merchants Association, the "Insider's Guide to the Local's North Beach" is one part of a renewed effort by the dedicated shopkeepers and merchants on upper Grant Avenue to bring life back to this beautiful street. Another important part is the formation this year of the North Beach Merchants Association, now with over 50 members, as a business group representing the shopkeepers and merchants that bring character to our streets and serve our neighborhood and its residents every day; not just on Friday and Saturday nights. THD is doing its part too: lobbying the Planning Department to protect the retail nature of upper Grant Avenue, holding our monthly Social Hours there and co-sponsoring the Dec. 3 North Beach Christmas Festival on the avenue. Please make it a point, if you haven't shopped Grant Avenue in a while, to stop in some of the shops and see what's new. Check out the clothing designs at Delilah Crown, get yourself a proper set of trousers made to order at Al's Attire, cruise the clothing collections at Pixie, AB Fits, Paparazzi and Ooma, get heart palpitations at Alla Prima, snag a rare map of San Francisco at Schein and Schein, and restock your stationary and cards with a stop at Lola. And, by the time you read this, Let There Be Cake should be open for business at 1351 Grant Ave. All of these merchants, and the new North Beach Merchants Association, have been doing a big job in bringing a lively, unique shopping street to our district and they deserve our support. And keep in mind that all of these shops are now staying open until 9 p.m. on Wednesday nights!

On The Waterfront

The saga of the Mills Corporation and Piers 27-31 continues, and it only gets uglier and uglier. As most of you know, with the help of the previous mayor, the Mills Corporation was successful in replacing a plan for Piers 27-31 that was 100 percent recreation (the Chelsea Piers project) with their own plan that has replaced most of the recreation space with an office and shopping mall. Does anyone here think that an office and

continued on page 5

Freebairn-Smith & Crane
Planning, Urban Design, Architecture

Rod Freebairn-Smith
Janet Crane
(415) 398 4094

Hoof it to Moose's.

1652 Stockton St. San Francisco. Open Daily
Sunday Brunch. Reservations 415-989-7800
www.mooses.com

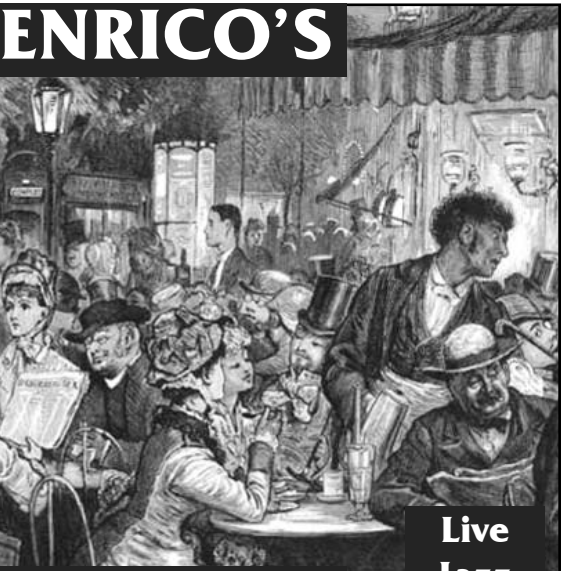
Sean O'Donnell
HANDYMAN

"Anything can be fixed
except a fallen soufflé."

30 years experience.
Local & neighborhood references.

A Telegraph Hill Dweller since 1982
415-307-1205

ENRICO'S



504 Broadway in North Beach
415 982-6223 for reservations
www.enricossidewalkcafe.com

Live
Jazz
Nightly

PRESIDENT'S REPORT *continued from page 3*

shopping mall complex is a good use of our precious waterfront? Well THD didn't think so and two years ago President Paul Scott argued as such in front of the State Lands Commission (which is responsible for overseeing lands held in the public trust). To no one's surprise, however, the commission ruled that the Mills Mall was public trust compliant with one commissioner abstaining and the remaining two (Steve Westley and Cruz Bustamante) voting for the ruling. Now we find out that prior to casting their votes in support of Mills, these two commissioners had received over $53,000 in campaign contributions from the Mills Corporation. How is it that we have managed to "legalize" bribery in this country? THD has contested this process by filing a formal complaint with the California Fair Political Practices Commission. We believe that those who take tens of thousands of dollars from big corporations shouldn't be allowed to violate the public trust for the benefit of their corporate donor. We'll let you know how this complaint progresses, but don't hold your breath. Payola is a powerful thing.

Got E-mail?

We love to keep in touch with all our members with the latest news on what's happening in the neighborhood; where and when the next Social Hour will be, pending legislation that's open for public comment, etc. We do mailings when we can, but this gets prohibitively expensive to do for every announcement and so e-mail becomes the fastest, cheapest option for us. If you have e-mail but haven't been getting notices on upcoming events from yours truly (president@thd.org), please send us your updated e-mail address (to thd@thd.org) so that we can keep our records current and you informed.

ZAP Graffiti and Dumped Trash

Call City Hotline 28-CLEAN

Have you thanked **Semaphore** *advertisers for their support?*

Maybeck's Landscapes:
Drawing in Nature
by Dianne Harris

Available at:
William Stout Architectural Books
804 Montgomery Street San Francisco
415.391.6757 www.stoutbooks.com
and other local bookstores

NORTH BEACH RESTAURANT
FOR 33 YEARS, LORENZO AND CHEF BRUNO HAVE BEEN SERVING THE FINEST "CUCINA TOSCANA"

Famous for its home-cured prosciutto, fresh pasta, finest veal, fish, beef and chicken. Lorenzo produces his own extra virgin olive oil and the first Brunello in Sonoma. North Beach Restaurant is a dining destination. Great food, award wining wine list, relaxed atmosphere and great service.

The secret to our success is consistency & quality.

1512 Stockton Street • (415) 392-1700
www.northbeachrestaurant.com

Serving Continuously From 11:30am-11:45pm
Banquet Room & Valet Parking

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Willis Polk's Own Home
On Russian Hill

LOUIS J. SILCOX, JR.

Louis has been a Telegraph Hill Dweller since 1976. His extensive 16 years of market knowledge along with an impressive track record of selling some of San Francisco's finest properties and Sotheby's notable worldwide marketing and referral services enable us to provide unrivaled services to you.

No Other Agent Consistently Sells More Telegraph Hill Properties!

117 Greenwich Street, San Francisco, CA 94111
Direct (415) 296-2229 Fax (415) 772-9080
E-mail: louis.silcox@sothebys.com

Gardner Daily-designed Masterpiece
On Telegraph Hill

San Francisco's Premier Address
Full-floor Penthouse & Apt. #2

Prime Parnassus Heights
Residence

Historic Pacific Heights
Fire House

Pacific Heights Mansion Designed by Albert Farr

Nob Hill Residence
Designed by Albert Farr

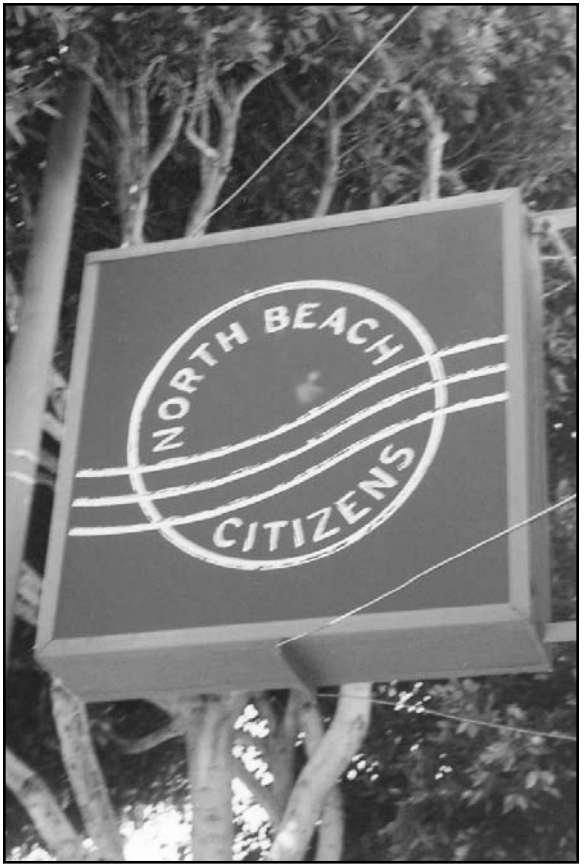
San Francisco Brokerage | WWW.SANFRANCISCO.SOTHEBYSREALTY.COM
PATRICK BARBER, VP & MANAGING BROKER 117 GREENWICH STREET. SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111 T 415.772.9080 F 415.772.9081

Changing Lives: North Beach Citizens' Commitment to Improving Our Community

by Brady McCartney

For the last five years, North Beach Citizens (NBC) has confronted the crisis of homelessness in San Francisco head-on. Its approach has been to develop a neighborhood-based program that tailors itself to the individual needs of its clients. In the process, NBC has built a legion of collaborators, supporters, and admirers from the streets of North Beach to Washington Square Park to the basement of St. Peter and Paul's through the corridors of City Hall.

Through creative partnerships with social service providers, the North Beach merchant community, and local citizens, North Beach Citizens has established itself as invaluable resource to homeless and at-risk citizens in the North Beach neighborhood. The organization is committed to finding solutions to homelessness. In the last year North Beach Citizens has housed 32 individuals. In collaborations with other service providers, the organization has assisted with housing, mental health issues, SSI benefits, Victims' Assistance Awards, medical bills, medical filing, employment opportunities, banking needs, probation problems, money management and burial assistance.



The following is an interview with one of NBC's recently housed clients, Robert.

Question: How long have you been homeless?
Answer: Since 1996.

Q. Before becoming involved with North Beach Citizens, where were you living and what were you doing?

A: I occasionally rented a room on Broadway or Kearny. I alternated between North Beach and other areas because the police force you to keep moving all day long if you are homeless. I was trying to stay invisible during the day. I took out lots of books from the library and would ride BART for 6 to 9 hours each day from one end of the line to the next until they made that illegal.

Q. How did you find NBC?

A. I knew I needed a miracle. Hope was an obligation, not a realistic endeavor. I was still in decline when a storeowner friend of mine sug-

continued on page 27

TALES OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Inside Enrico's

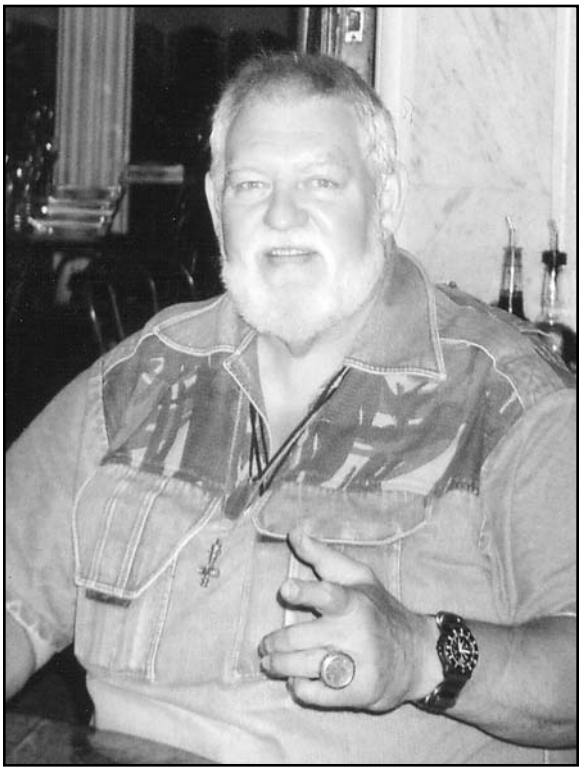
By Art Peterson

Ward Dunham
Calligrapher/Thug

That's how the large, genial man who has worked behind the bar at Enrico's since 1967 describes himself on his business card. The calligrapher we know about. Enter the long established Broadway watering hole and restaurant, and you'll be drawn to Dunham's powerful calligraphy-influenced work on the right side of the bar, a very public example of the art that has gained him worldwide recognition.

Ward the Enforcer

But what about the "thug" part? The man must be kidding. Well, not really. It seems that Enrico Banducci did not hire Ward because this guy knew just the right amount of vermouth to whisper into a very dry martini. Rather Ward got the job because Enrico needed some muscle. It seems the hindsight view many of us hold of the Golden Age of Enrico's wasn't the whole story. Sure, writers like Richard Brautigan, Kurt Gentry, Herb Gold, Evan Connell and Ron Kovic and the artist Sam Provenzano would gather in the late afternoon to exchange witticisms with Chronicle luminaries like Herb Caen, John Wasserman and Stanton Delaplane, but show up late at night, and it was a different scene. 1967 was the year of the Summer of Love. The street was overrun by a motley collection of hippies, hookers, druggies, pimps and ancient beatniks. It was an exciting scene but always pretty close to getting out of hand. Enrico wanted Ward and his brother Shel—also a very big guy—as buffers in case of an emergency.



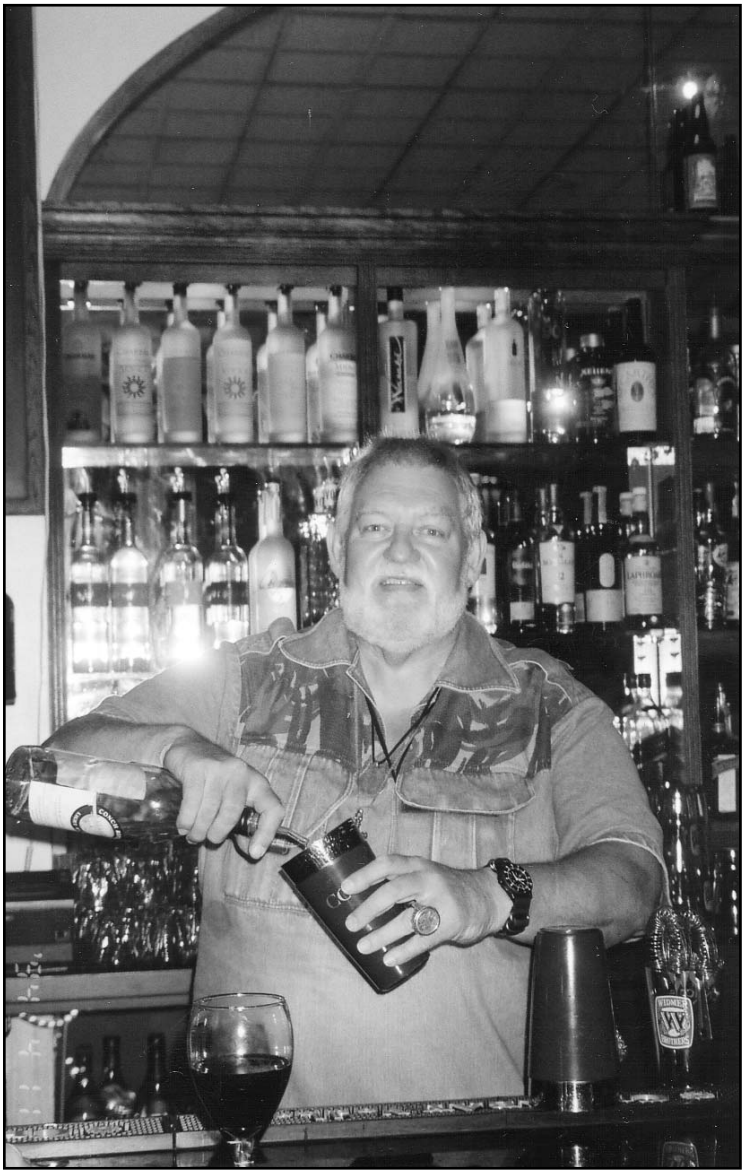
Ward was not without credentials for this work. A couple of years before, he had appealed to North Beach character and tough guy Lucky Lucchessi for a job. Lucchessi sent him down to the then totally disreputable 181 Club on Eddy Street where Ward was taken on as a bouncer. The first night on the job he was stabbed. Lucchessi had little sympathy. "That's how you learn," he said.

As it turned out, in addition to Ward, Enrico also picked up plenty of volunteer help in his efforts to maintain a semi-respectable establishment. Ward lists some of the heavies: "Big Phil" Ellsworth, Mike "The Alaskan" York—a gigantic professional wrestler— "Judo Gene" Garren and Larry "Bad News" Green, as well as all-pro defen-

continued on next page

ENRICO'S *continued from previous page*

sive lineman Tom Keating and some of his Oakland Raider buddies. In addition, Lucchessi was now working for Enrico off the payroll. ("A bodyguard," wrote Herb Caen, "and he needs one."). Lucchessi sometimes worked as a bartender, says Ward. "He could only mix about six drinks an hour but he had a stare that—even at 50—would intimidate the nastiest of hoodlums."



Life on the Street

"The street was different then," Ward says. For one thing there was a lot more serious drinking. "On any night half the people at the bar would be really loaded. On a Friday or Saturday, I always ended up throwing out six or seven people".

There were celebrity drunks like Burgess Meredith and Lee Marvin ("a mean guy with an intellectual edge") and others, champion drinkers like the regular Tony Dingman. When Nicholas Cage received the Oscar for his work in "Leaving Las Vegas," he said "I'd like to thank Tony Dingman for teaching me how to be a drunk."

Broadway, says Ward, has always been in a state of flux, and his account of some of these changes helps put in perspective the current scene on the street. "Up to the mid-'60s, the clubs on Broadway were jazz venues: The Jazz Workshop, El Matador, Sugar Hill. Around 1965, the street transformed; the pill and the sexual revolution changed everything, and we had energetic college girls and other beautiful young women like Wanda Wonderful dancing topless to groups like George and Teddy and the Condors and Bobby Freeman, whose big hit was 'The Swim.' For a while, the Topless Swim

continued on page 24

CBDs: A New Way Toward Neighborhood Improvement

By Marc Bruno

Here's what Mayor Gavin Newsom has to say about Community Benefit Districts: "Every neighborhood will want one of these. I guarantee you our biggest problem will be processing requests."

This remark is not mere political bluster. So far, property owners in six San Francisco neighborhoods—Union Square, the Castro, the Tenderloin, Noe Valley, Fisherman's Wharf and the 2500 block of Mission Street—have approved CBDs. Other neighborhoods including Chinatown, Hayes Valley and Potrero Hill are expressing serious interest.

What is this new configuration that is generating such enthusiasm? A CBD is no more than a mutual agreement among property owners in a specific neighborhood to add a special assessment on their properties above their current property taxes. All property owners in the designated district are given a chance to vote on the proposed CBD, and those ballots, issued and counted by the city in a special election, must reach 50 percent plus one for the district to be established. CBDs have been made possible as a result of legislation sponsored by Supervisor Aaron Peskin. His law allows San Franciscans to begin the CBD process with a lower threshold of property owner approval than is required by state law. Peskin's legislation also sets aside city funds to help communities fund the complex process, one that typically takes between nine months and two years.

Readers will note that North Beach and Telegraph Hill are not among the neighborhoods listed above, but many in the community want to change this. What are the steps the neighborhood will need to go through to establish our own CBD?

The first thing we must do is to inform the neighborhood. We'll hold public forums and send out mailers surveying what the residents see as neighborhood needs. Do they want this district at all? If they do, what are the priorities? This is a chance for neighbors to speak up for possibilities such as better street lighting, more police presence, a pedestrian mall, a graffiti patrol for private residences, more trees, or a North Beach Playground more special than anything currently being planned.

After this initial canvassing, the community will need to submit a petition — based on data gained from the meetings and surveys—detailing how the assessment revenues will be used if the CBD is established. Thirty percent of the property owners—based on a "weighted vote"—must approve this plan. As property owners would eventually be assessed according to square footage of their property, weighted voting means that the vote of a property owner with 2,000 feet of square footage has a vote that counts twice that of someone who owns 1,000 square feet.

continued on next page

SHOP LOCALLY!

Show our merchants we need them!

CBDs *continued from page 10*

When this vote takes place it is possible that certain blocks and micro-neighborhoods within the community will opt out.

If the plan is approved by the requisite percentage of property owners and the city gives the go ahead, property owners in the designated will vote in a special election. As indicated above, 50 percent plus one in the district must vote for the plan.

One objection to CBDs is that many residents do not feel they should be paying extra for city services. But this argument is based on a misconception. The CBD is meant to supplement, not replace, city services. Prior to balloting, every city department must offer an accounting of what services are already provided, and guarantee all residents—property owners and non-property owners alike—that those services will not be diminished under the CBD.

The folks that already have the CBDs are enthusiastic. Chris Martin of the recently vested CBD at Fisherman's Wharf notes: "Aaron's foresight gave us as property owners the ability to actually lead planning efforts for our neighborhood instead of, as in the past, being at the mercy of raw market forces or bureaucratic city planners."

Could we wish any less for North Beach? In December the steering committee of CBDs in North Beach will begin holding public meetings. Those who want more information can write me at cbdcommittee@yahoo.com

Marc Bruno, a THD board member, is a member of the steering committee on CBDs in North Beach.

COIT TOWER TRAFFIC SOLUTION IMPASSE SEEN AS RESOLVED IN TIME FOR SPRING/SUMMER TRIAL

By Bill Seelinger, Chair THD Parking and Traffic Committee

The THD Parking & Traffic committee plans to bring its efforts to eliminate the peak-period traffic backups below Coit Tower to a head this-coming spring or summer, by a collectively arrived-at procedure on how a trial of the present proposed solution—elimination of certain parking during the peak periods—should be executed.

These traffic backups, of sometimes up to 50 cars, annoy tens of thousands of San Francisco visitors every year, produce all-day air pollution, inhibit access by emergency vehicles, and motivate many expectant Tower visitors to make hazardous mid-street turnarounds and leave. The Municipal Transportation Agency's position is that it doesn't want to implement the currently proposed solution of eliminating peak-period visitor parking, while continuing to permit relatively minor resident parking, because the MTA feels it is discriminatory between visitors and residents, and that this two-tier parking is more expensive to police.

The new procedure will be based on three key activities over the winter:

1. Fostering an organized, three-way dialog among the nearby residents, our committee, and the MTA, to attempt to reach a mutually agreeable procedure for the trial.

2. Securing direction for an effective trial from the Board of Supervisors as a backup and/or reinforcement to the above.

3. Continuing with our present information program of distributing brochures, hotel concierge aids, and signs, that encourage visitors to take the bus, walk, or drive during off hours.

As to the first point above—the three-way dialog—some nearby neighbors don't want to give up parking even for four hours on Saturday, Sunday, and holiday afternoons. These neighbors have a reasonable case. When they committed to their residences, it appeared that 24/7 parking at the Coit lot would most likely remain indefinitely. They state that this lot is their "street."

Others, including some other nearby neighbors, feel that the egregious backups must be done away with, and that neighbors don't necessarily have some intrinsic right to park their cars in this city owned park 24/7. It is argued that those few affected can arrange car-based errands to coincide with the peak periods or park their cars on the street or in commercial garages and take the bus up the hill, retrieving their cars later: less convenience for a handful of neighbors balanced against more convenience for tens of thousands of money spending visitors.

The objecting neighbors even take issue with just a one-month (four-weekend) trial of the concept of doing away with all parking as a solution to the traffic backup, apparently fearing an eventual ban on all parking at the Tower all of the time.

If you are an interested resident, please watch for the scheduled three-way dialogs and attend them to express your views. To request inclusion on an email announcement list, please email *billseel@aol.com.*

The THD Parking & Traffic committee intends to take any and all legal measures to fix this egregious problem, and we expect to succeed!

FROM THE ORAL HISTORY PROJECT:

Dick Monaco Speaks

Among the treasure trove of interviews collected by the Telegraph Hill Dwellers Oral History Project is Audrey Tomaselli's interview with Richard Monaco. Richard is the grandson of JB Monaco, the premier photographer of the San Francisco Earthquake and Fire, as well as many other events in San Francisco history. Here, Richard, who is still in the photography business at 234-9th Street, has pulled out a couple of his grandfather's photos from his collection to illustrate remarks he made during his interview with Audrey.

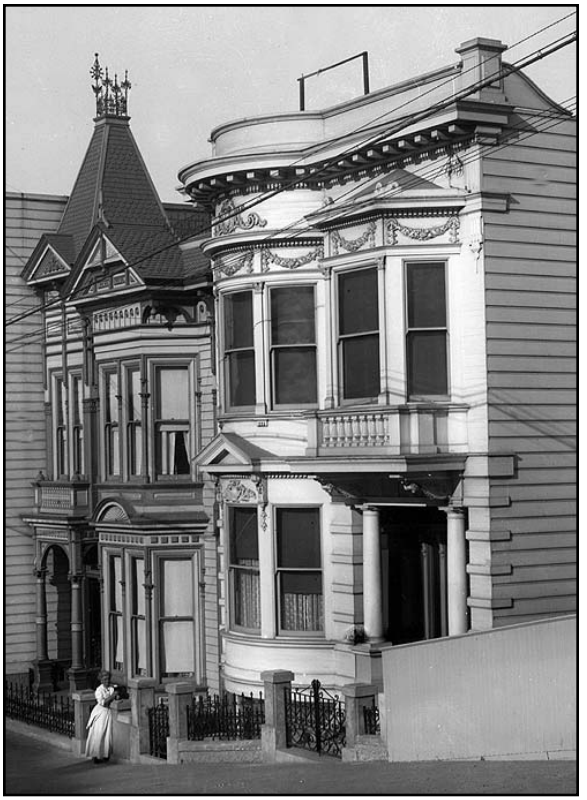
Leavenworth from Chestnut...Shows block of Leavenworth saved from fire.

This picture was taken in 1906, immediately following the earthquake and fire. They turned back the fire on this corner here. Everything else burned down. You can see all the destruction. All the way down to the Wharf it was burned down. But they were able to stop the fire because around the corner here on Francisco Street. Down the block was a house with a natural well. So everyone formed a bucket brigade, and they hung sheets and so forth at this corner right here, and they fought it for eight or 10 hours. And then the wind shifted and saved it.

MONACO *continued from page 13*

My grandfather built the flats at 2430 Leavenworth. And the house I grew up in was 2434 Leavenworth. Now you'll never recognize by grandfather's flats at 2430 because he sold it to a San Francisco architect, Richard Neutra, very much into modern architecture. I think it was 1938 or 1939, and you know, Neutra knocked all the Victorian stuff off and put plywood on the front of the building, that's the way it looks today. My grandfather thought Neutra was crazy and my father did, too.

continued on page 15



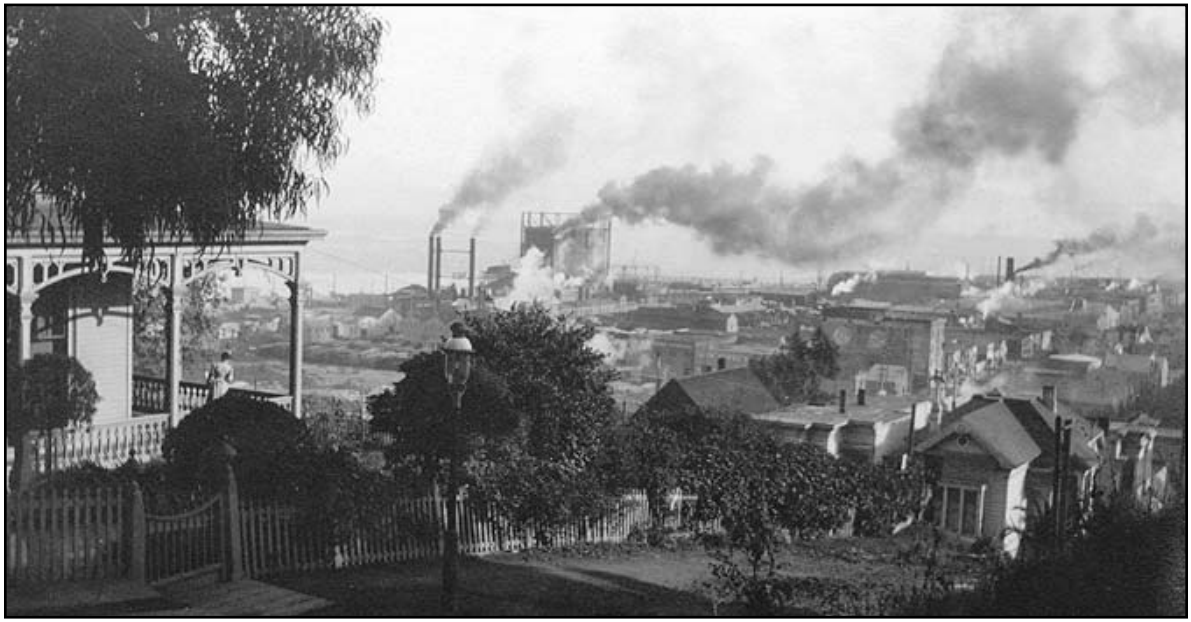
Two Monaco properties, 2430 and 2434 Leavenworth saved from fire by neighbors at corner of Leavenworth and Chestnut. (2430 is the building Neutra remodelled in 1937—upper right.)

MONACO *continued from page 14*

The original location of my grandfather's photography studio was at Pacific where Kearny and Columbus at the corner where Mr. Bing's is located now. It was a wooden building and burned down in 1906 at the time of the earthquake and fire.

continued on page 18

Fire on Kearny... Monaco studio around corner on Montgomery to burn to ground within hours...



North Beach from Leavenworth and Francisco. Monaco photos taken near the family residences on Leavenworth.

The Blue Ange

Each year, neighbors express opinions over the fall season arriv
have been heard many times. We provide you here a kind of cr
write letters

PRO

The Blue Angels are an inspiring symbol of the prowess that protects our freedom.

The attraction of the Blue Angels brings into town many people with dollars to spend locally.

The incredible display of death-defying skill is inspiring.

We live in a noisy city, so one more noisy but very special event a year won't hurt us.

Unlike a lot of government expenditures that send money down a bureaucratic sinkhole, monies for the Blue Angels are spent on a tangible and symbolically important event.

It's not the Blue Angels who have caused a fuel shortage, but everything from the public's love of gas guzzling SUVs to the nation's failure to exploit domestic oil supply.

The Blue Ang

On the Sunday of Fleet Week, crowds at Coit Tower clim

ls Visit—Again

al of the Blue Angels. The pros and cons surrounding this event
ib sheet for those who next October will make phone calls and
to the editor.

g e l A r g u m e n t

b the Columbus statue to view the Blue Angels' exhibition.

CON

The Blue Angels are a scary reminder of the American military hegemony that blankets the world.

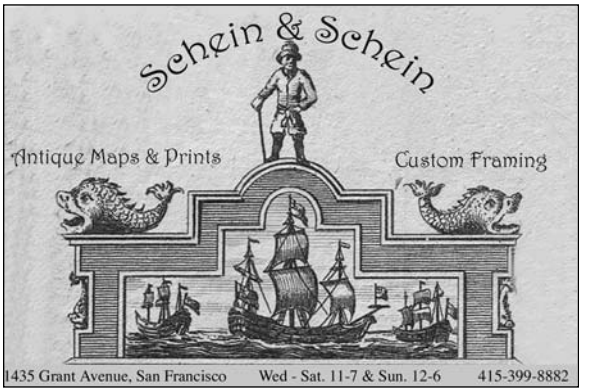
Crowds flock to the city, making for impassable streets and cluttered neighborhoods.

The Blue Angel flights have the same ghoulish attraction as auto racing. You can watch people die.

The noise disrupts all normal activity.

The event is a waste of government money.

The planes use extraordinary amounts of fuel at a time we feel the crunch of fuel in short supply.



MONACO *continued from page 15*

Horse drawn wagons were a little before my time, but there were still a couple around when I was a kid. The junk man—"rags, bottles, sacks" he used to cry as he drove his horse along. That's all he said, "Rags, bottles, sacks." If you had something you wanted to sell to him, some old junk, he'd buy it or sell you some old junk. And there was the vegetable peddler who would make the rounds and all the housewives would go out every day and buy carrots and some spinach and some potatoes and so on. And there was the nut guy. He'd go up to the corner and yell "samenza. samenza." He'd walk round with this big tray of a variety of nuets and people would come running to buy them.

Beer wagon Montgomery and Kearny

(left) Bay St and Leavenworth... compare to todays tourist traffic.

Northern Montgomery Ave (from Columbus and Chestnut). Monaco photos of North Beach

From the Desk of Supervisor Peskin

"When money speaks, the truth keeps silent."

—Russian Proverb

Each year since taking office on the Board of Supervisors in 2001, I have been involved in crafting the city's budget. Over that same period of time, city government has persisted through annual deficits that shrank spending by over $1 billion. This experience taught me a great deal about the importance of fiscal prudence in all aspects of city government, and I would like to use this edition of the Semaphore to talk about the importance of insisting on sound fiscal policy in various aspects of our government.

One of my earliest projects as a supervisor was to fight the bloated and mismanaged bureaucracy of San Francisco International Airport and prevent the city from wasting billions of dollars to unnecessarily fill two square miles of San Francisco Bay.

Our success in this effort uncovered many examples of frivolous government waste, including the misspending of close to $70 million in preplanning for the needless runway expansion. This discovery led me, in June 2004, to author a new law called the "Fiscal Responsibility and Feasibility Ordinance."

This ordinance, adopted unanimously by the Board of Supervisors and signed by Mayor Newsom, ensured that proposed large public projects would go through a comprehensive financial review in a public forum before precious city resources were committed. Just this past summer, the board unanimously amended the legislation to close a loophole that allowed the proposed project at Piers 27-31 to slip through without a simple review.

The Fiscal Responsibility and Feasibility Ordinance asks the board to consider the following criteria when evaluating a major project: (1) direct and indirect financial benefits of the project to the city, including to the extent applicable costs savings or new revenues, including tax revenues, generated by the proposed project; (2) the cost of construction; (3) available funding for the project; (4) the long term operating and maintenance costs of the project.

As of press time, the Mills Corporation has taken the step of attempting to circumvent this simple review process by exploiting a loophole in the fiscal feasibility ordinance to avoid public scrutiny of their finances. As the author of that law, I plan to take every necessary step to pry open the Mills Corporation's books for the Piers 27-31 project. San Franciscans deserve the most basic facts about this project.

Another element of city government deserving of close public scrutiny is the Office of Emergency Services and Homeland Security (OES), responsible for coordinating our city's response to catastrophic emergency events – from a major earthquake or tsunami to terrorist attacks or the like. In the wake of Hurricane Katrina and the Federal Emergency Management Agency's blundering response, I called for a comprehensive management and fiscal audit of this vital city department.

To my surprise, the OES had not received a comprehensive review in well over a decade, since the time of the Loma Prieta quake. According to their website, the OES is responsible for "develop-

continued on page 20

PESKIN *continued from page 19*

ing, implementing and maintaining programs and relationships which will provide for the safety and protection of the City and County of San Francisco from the threat or effects of natural, man-made or technological disasters."

The Office of Emergency Services is currently overseen by Anne-Marie Conroy, formerly the executive director of the Treasure Island Development Authority and an appointed member of the Board of Supervisors in the early 1990s. Questions have arisen across the country recently about the ability of local governments to respond to major disasters. I look forward to a full and accurate accounting of the millions of dollars in federal funding currently being spent by the Office of Emergency Services to prepare San Francisco for the next big quake.

Finally, I wanted to talk about a movement that is gaining steam across San Francisco, and one that I have discussed in this column in the past: the formation of "community benefit districts" or CBDs, to fund neighborhood improvements such as sidewalk cleaning, increased security measures or economic development and business promotion activities.

CBDs are formed when a group of property owners work with other community members to form a plan to fund community benefits. The property owners then work with legislators in City Hall to formalize the plan and establish a timeline for a property-owner election to decide whether or not they should be assessed an annual fee for providing these services.

It is important to note that, while many folks initially ask "Why aren't my tax dollars already paying for this service?" CBDs cannot be used to replace services already being provided by the city or those which are required by law to be provided. Residents, merchants and property owners in the Mission, Castro, Noe Valley and Fisherman's Wharf joined Union Square businesses in forming CBDs earlier this year.

Currently, a number of North Beach folks formed a steering committee to contemplate the formation of a CBD in the neighborhood. The committee meets the last Thursday of each month. This effort could provide an exciting opportunity to effect positive changes in North Beach over the next several years. Contact Marc Bruno at marcabruno@yahoo.com for more information about their efforts and read his more detailed account of the CBD process elsewhere in this issue.

As always, don't hesitate to contact me in City Hall at 554-7450 or shoot me an e-mail at Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org. See you around the Hill.

ESPRESSO CAPPUCCINO VINO PANINI

CAFFÈ GRECO

423 Columbus Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94133
Hanna & Sandy Suleiman 415-397-6261

Telegraph Hill Dwellers' Financial Disclosure
Fiscal 2004/05 *

INCOME STATEMENT - Fiscal 2005

Revenues		Expenses	
Contributions, gifts, grants and similar	$ 34,324	Program Services	$ 23,473
Investment Income	$ 1,001	Printing, publications, postage and shipping including the quarterly "Semaphore" publication	$ 10,068
		Grants and similar amounts	$ 1,600
Totals	$ 35,325	Totals	$ 35,141
		Net Profit/(Loss)	$ 184

BALANCE SHEET - March 31, 2005

Assets		Liabilities & Net Assets	
Cash, savings, and investments	$ 114,188	Liabilities	$ -
	g	Net Assets	$ 114,188
Total Assets	$ 114,188	Total Liabilities & Net Assets	$ 114,188

* Fiscal year is April 1 through March 31

Telegraph Hill Dwellers ("THD") is financially healthy, generated a break even income level last year, and complies with the generally accepted nonprofit financial management and fiscal accountability guidelines as established by the national "Give" organization. Namely:

(1) THD has no debt, is liquid, maintains prudent reserves, and generated virtually break even income results for the past two years.

(2) THD meets the "Give" organization's nonprofit fiscal accountability guidelines and recommendations, which suggest that at least 65% of a nonprofit's annual expenses be program related and that no more than 35% of contributions be spent on fund raising.

(3) The quarterly "Semaphore" is THD's largest single program expense. THD has no paid employees or external consultants, and relies on its 800+ members' and volunteers' donated "sweat equity" to operate over twelve regular programs and numerous annual initiatives.

(4) Membership dues and contributions provide the majority of THD's revenues and virtually all of its unrestricted revenues.

(5) The organization has $114,188 in liquid net assets as of March 31, 2005. About $30,000 of this amount is unrestricted, and about $85,000 is "restricted". THD's "restricted" funds are comprised of the Jack Early trust bequest, which bequested about $100,000 to THD in the late 1990's for several specified neighborhood projects and interests. Since inception, THD's Jack Early bequest funds supplied over $26,000 to the Pioneer Park renovation and other neighborhood projects, and also generates annual interest income. Today, the Jack Early restricted funds amount to about $85,000, or 74% of THD's total net assets. THD has about $30,000 in "unrestricted" net assets, which is about equal to one year of THD's annual program activities budget and meets the Give organization's recommended "unrestricted funds" guidelines.

** The Give organization and its generally accepted nonprofit donation and fiscal accountability guidelines may be found at www.GIVE.org/standards. THD's own website is at www.THD.org, and contains information about our current programs, activities, resources and history.

New Shop at the Shrine of St. Francis

Bishop Ignatius Wang opens the Proziuncula Gift Shop at the National Shrine of St. Francis, standing with Angela ALioto and Fr. Roberty Cipriano.

PHOTO BY JUNE A. OSTERBERG

By Patricia Cady

In the 1920s, local benefactor Frank Marini donated a basketball gym at the corner of Vallejo Street and Columbus Avenue. When SS. Peter and Paul church opened a school with its own big gym and playground, other uses were found for Marini's building—most recently as the Proziuncula Gift Shop, named for the chapel that St. Francis chose as his home in Assisi.

Staffed by volunteers, proceeds support the National Shrine of St. Francis.

Opening day was Oct. 4, the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi.

Bishop Ignatius Wang, once the pastor of the church, turned the key to what has started out as a thriving business. The store's inventory is entirely from Italy. Some objects are works of art available nowhere else outside of the Vatican and the Uffizi Gallery, such as hand-painted copies of Giotto frescoes on stone and paper. More affordable items are unique glass tree ornaments and other Christmas items; reproductions of icons and paintings, books, cards, candles and parchment copies of the famous Peace Prayer of St. Francis.

The store is open between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. (closed Mondays), although hours may be expanded for holiday shoppers.

Tutors Needed at Garfield School

Neighbors who have a few hours—or even twenty minutes—to volunteer each week are much needed to help out at Garfield School. If you can tutor English or math or assist in other ways in the classroom or in the office, the school's principal Karen Law would like to hear from you.

One current volunteer, THD member Marion Myerson comments: "I help children with their reading and have been impressed with the atmosphere of learning and caring in the school. The principal and the teachers are supportive and for many of the children, the one-on-one attention once or twice weekly is invaluable. Partly because of the help of the volunteers, the school has demonstrated real improvement."

Those wishing more information should contact Karen Law at 433-1382.

ENRICO'S *continued from page 9*

was the big thing on the street. It was a very lively scene."

The problem was that topless soon caught on in the rest of country, so San Francisco had to take the next step. The clubs went bottomless; dancers with little or no talent came on the scene, and the street got seedier. "Bust out joints" were all over. A bust out joint, Ward explains, was an establishment where the employees had instructions to "make money anyway you can." "One night a friend of mine came into Enrico's dazed. In a few minutes he had dropped $460 in one of those nude encounter parlors that were all over the street in those days."

Police reactions to these goings on varied with the circumstances. Ward recalls one night when the weight lifter Ken Patera, the first man to clear and jerk 500 pounds, was—after a few too many drinks—out in front of Enrico's with his equally large friends pulling parking meters out of the concrete as a squad car came around the corner. "The cops decided it was time to go for a coffee break," Ward says.

The officer on the beat was Sgt. Al Perini, a master of improvisation in difficult situations. One evening a troublemaker confronted Perini saying, "If you didn't have that badge and gun on…" Right off, Perini removed his badge, gun and night stick and showed the unfortunate fellow that the law of the West still had a place in San Francisco. "There would have been no Fajitagate in those days," says Ward.

Chronicles of Enrico's

Ward, of course, has enough Enrico's stories to fill a book, and many have urged him to do just that. Here are a few of them.

— In the early '60s Enrico was married to his fifth wife, Susie Banducci. Susie wanted to turn Enrico's into an upscale venue where the Pacific Heights crowd could come to meet and greet. In fact, Enrico's did appeal to the café society crowd, not because it was high falutin', but rather because it smacked a bit of the demimonde. One night a tall, black man in an ill-fitting dark suit was occupying the floor, dancing to his inner music. An indignant Susie said to Enrico:

"He can't dance in here."

Enrico replied "That's Thelonius Monk. He can do whatever he wants."

"I don't care what the guy's religion is," said Susie, "he can't dance in here."

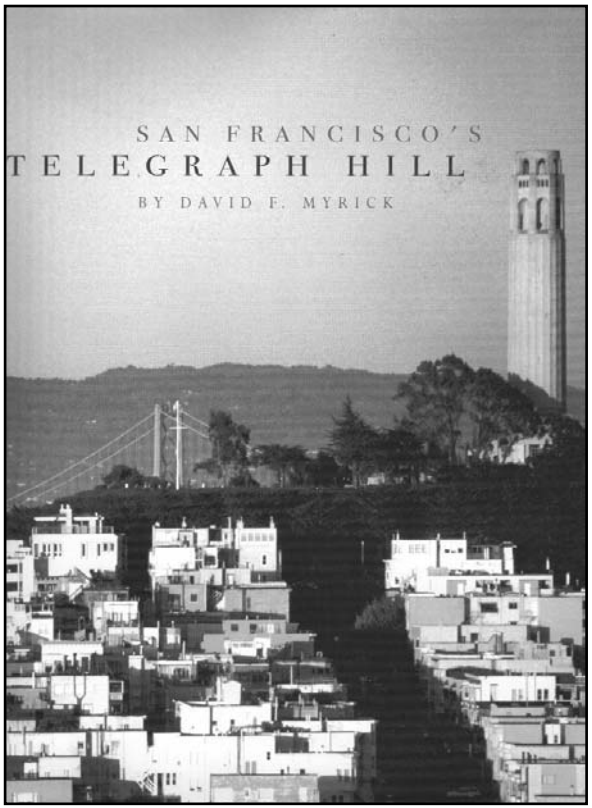
But despite this outburst, there were few rules at Enrico's. The establishment was neutral ground. "There'd be four pimps at one table and three cops at the next, and everything would stay cool."

The anything-can-happen-here attitude was concisely reflected in a scene from the 1968 Steve McQueen film "Bullitt." Ward—performing as an extra—is seated at an outdoor rear corner table. He is wearing a sports coat. "The only time in my life,…" says Ward. Inexplicably, seated at the same table, is a guy playing a cello. There was always a scene at Enrico's to turn one's head.

But that's not to say that Enrico's did not face the same problem as other restaurants. In the '70s, restaurants up and down Broadway—Vanessi's, New Joes, Enrico's—through no fault of their own, were doing battle with rats and roaches. A guy came in and claimed he could solve the problem by running boric acid through the pipes, and convinced Enrico that this treatment would be no danger to humans by swallowing a heaping tablespoon full of the solution. The concoction did get rid of the roaches, but the rats, who could eat through concrete, persisted. "On many nights after closing we would sit around shooting rats with a .22," Ward says. "One night a woman in a

continued on page 26

Order your copy of *San Francisco's Telegraph Hill*



As almost everyone who has lived on Telegraph Hill for long knows, *San Francisco's Telegraph Hill* by David Myrick is a collector's item. The out-of-print first edition of this book, lovingly detailing the colorful history of the Hill, sells for $200 these days.

In 2002, David agreed to make revisions to the original, and THD agreed to sponsor the second edition of the Myrick book. The new volume includes 32 new pages and 50 more photographs.

To order your book, please fill out the order form below.

To order ***San Francisco's Telegraph Hill*** 2nd edition

___ number of copies at $41.48 per copy. This price includes Calif. sales tax.

SHIPPING INFORMATION

Please provide the address(es) where shipment should be made.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

Please mail this form and a check in the appropriate amount **payable to Telegraph Hill Dwellers to:**
Telegraph Hill Dwellers -- Book Orders / P.O. Box 330159, San Francisco, CA 94133
If you have any questions, please write Telegraph Hill Dwellers or call (415) 255-6799.

The Oral History Program

By Patricia Cady

A 1942 photograph shows a lovely young woman beside a steep precipice on Telegraph Hill, calmly tending her garden. Further up Alta Street, a neighbor plans his annual bash to celebrate the blooming of a fruit tree.

A young mother leaves her home on Vallejo Street before dawn to take a ferry to her wartime welder's job in the Richmond shipyards. And everyone awaits the arrival, every fall, of the big, rattly trucks that will deliver grapes from Sonoma to local home basements for winemaking.

Stories told by some of the folks who lived on the Hill when it was a nearly self-contained community are captured for posterity by THD's Oral History Program. Much more than just anecdotes, each history is developed to professional standards to tell the real-life stories of those who were born here, and of newcomers who chose to live modest, uncomplicated lives in an area considered so remote and unpopulated that, in the 1950s, the City intended to curtail its single bus line, the 39.

Spearheaded by Rozell Overmire and Audrey Tomaselli, the project has produced 10 oral histories so far, seven more are in process. The completed histories are available for on-site review at the North Beach Public Library and in the History Room of the Civic Center's Main Library. Because many more candidates have agreed to participate in the Oral History Program, many more volunteer interviewers and transcribers are needed now. Volunteers will complete a one-day professional training program at Tel-Hi Center on Saturday, Nov. 12.

THD will pay costs of training, less a $25 fee for materials. To register for training, or to learn more about this rich, engrossing and valuable program, call Rozell Overmire at 415-989-3945.

For an example of THD's oral history work, see the excerpt from Audrey Tomaselli's interview with Richard Monaco on page 13.

ENRICO'S *continued from page 24*

back booth had a rat crawling up her leg. The woman freaked; the rat freaked. The secret was out. Eventually, when we brought in a house cat as a pet, the rats got the word. The mere scent of the cat sent them scurrying." The health department, that should have given the cat a medal, made the restaurant get rid of the animal. "No house pet in restaurants," the inspectors said. But the rats were gone, never to return in large numbers, and a crisis was averted.

And the establishment did have its share of crises, based to a considerable extent on Enrico's free spending ways. But Enrico also had many friends willing to help him out. One buddy was Bill Cosby, a regular who would come in and play dominoes. During one rocky financial period, Cosby wanted to invest a large sum of money in the establishment. His financial advisor objected. Said Cosby, who had received his first break working for Enrico at the old Hungry i: "If it weren't for Enrico, I wouldn't be here, you wouldn't be working for me, and there wouldn't be any money to invest. Give him the money."

That's the kind of loyalty Enrico and Enrico's inspires, not only among the rich and famous, but also among many of the neighbors who are seldom more at home than sitting on a stool across the plank from Ward Dunham, the thug with a heart of gold.

North Beach Citizens *continued from page 7*

gested going down to North Beach Citizens. In October, 2004, I showed up and talked to Kristie (Fairchild, NBC's Executive Director). She told me I could leave some of my stuff at NBC and Brady (McCartney, NBC's Office and Case Manager) put me on the waiting list. Right before Christmas, their caseload thinned a bit and they intaked me. I immediately got an NBC photo I.D., which was very helpful for the hotels and other places, a mailbox, voice-mail, access to a phone. I was able to cleanup everyday. I had access to clothing that had been donated by the community. NBC also helped me clear up my police record in two counties. And they helped me continue with the SSI process and navigate the system so that when long-term housing became available I would be able to afford it. NBC seemed skilled and resourceful to deal with my seemingly endless list of problems.

NBC was a refuge. It felt like heaven with food, warmth, and nice, non-judgmental people. I am amazed by the staff's commitment—Kristie, Brady, Theresa. I was not a quick fix.

Q. How did you become housed?

A. I had been on the San Francisco Housing Authority and the Section 8 waiting list for 4 years, keeping track of my number. My name got to the top of the list and the process really began. I had to document and show proof for everything I had said in my application. It took NBC and me 3 months to put everything together. It is absolutely impossible to do on your own if you are homeless or low-income. But now I am permanently housed.

North Beach Citizens is located at 720 Columbus
For more information call 415.772.0918

Mills Update

As the *Semaphore* publishes only four times a year, it is no usually not possible to t o keep readers abreast of breaking news, but at press time (November 23) here is where things stood with regard to the ongoing tug- of- war over the Mills Corporation project at piers 27-31.

On October 18, the Board of Supervisors voted on the fiscal feasibility of the Mill's Corpora-tion's proposed project. The fiscal feasibility resolution was defeated by a vote of 9-1 with 1 abstention.

The corporation was unable to convince the board that that the project had the funding commitments for the recreational components that the corporation had promised the city. Because Mills was allowed $2.1 in public rent credits, the developer had to prove the fiscal viability of the project to the board. In particular, in rejecting the project's fiscal feasibility, the board called attention to the fact that, the YMCA, Mill's partner in the venture, has not raised the $30 million needed for the Y's development.

A spokesperson for Mills said he did not know whether the company might revise and resubmit its plan. He added that if future board opposition should kill the project, Mill's might take the project before the voters.

The projects eventual lease agreement would have to be OK'd by the board, and any appeal of it environmental impact report would also land before the supervisors.

This account draws on a story by Jo Stanley in the *San Francisco Examiner*, October 19, 2005.

JULIUS CASTLE

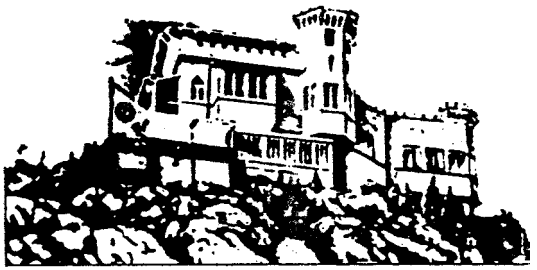
1541 Montgomery St. San Francisco, CA

Atop Telegraph Hill overlooking San Francisco Bay
Featuring exquisite continental cuisine,
elegant service, rare vintage wines and spirits
with unsurpassed views in an intimate atmosphere.

A San Francisco Tradition since 1922.

Lunch Monday - Friday from 11:30-4:00 p.m.
Evenings from 5:00-10:00 p.m.

All major credit cards accepted. / Valet Parking / Private Parties Welcome



For reservations please call 362-3042

CITY LIGHTS

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD BOOKSTORE

261 Columbus @ Broadway phone: 362-8193

Open Everyday, from 10 A.M. - Midnight

Top of Telegraph Hill
San Francisco

SPEEDY'S

established
1915
New Union Grocery

Groceries • Delicatessen • Meat & Poultry

4 1 5 7 8 1 6 1 6 8

SAN FRANCISCO'S
MOST AWARDED PIZZA

FAST FREE DELIVERY

433-2444

PIZZA, PASTA, ENTREES
SALADS AND SANDWICHES

1499 Grant Av
at Union

1310 Grant Av
at Vallejo

THD Board Motions

FOR THE MONTHS OF JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST 2005

JUNE, 2005

No motions

JULY, 2005

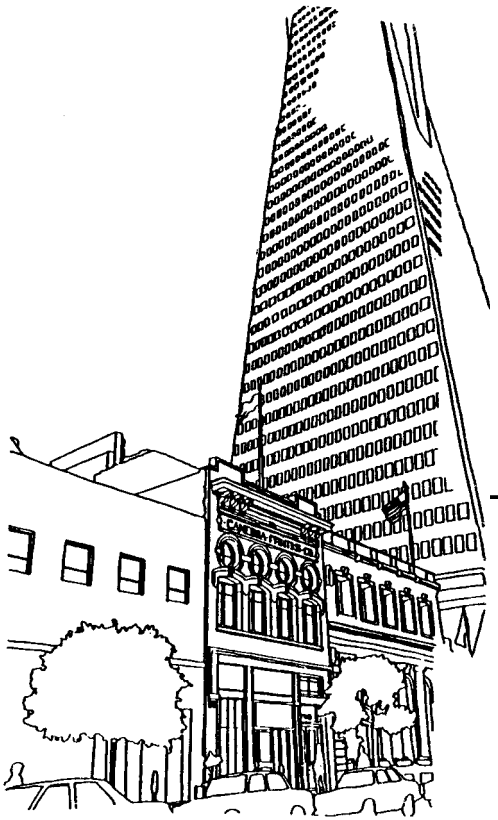
MOTION: THD endorses the proposed concept for the Coit Tower September 15, 2005 fundraising event as presented by the San Francisco Parks Trust ("SFPT") as long as SFPT is sensitive to MUNI and parking issues and ensuring that the Coit Tower garden is protected. THD would like an opportunity to approve the final plan for the event and requests that SFPT share some of the money that is generated by the event with Pioneer Park.

The Motion passed.

AUGUST, 2005

MOTION: THD grants President Brad Willmore permission to sign and file a complaint with the California Fair Political Practices Commission that California State Controller Steve Westly and Mills Corporation violated the Political Reform Act.

The Motion passed.



advertisement

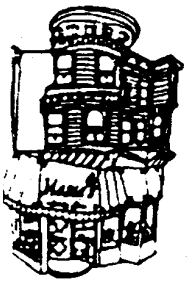
Breakfast & Lunch
7 days a week
7:30-3:30

PAT'S CAFE

Dinner
Fri & Sat

2330 Taylor Street
San Francisco, CA 94133
415-776-8735

Home Style Cookin'



Mama's
on Washington Square

Debra & Michael Sanchez

1701 Stockton St. S.F., CA 94133
Phone: 415-362-6421

THD Welcomes New Members

June 2005 to September 2005

Bill Haerle & Susan Bradshaw, Priscilla Mueller Bruce Parker, Eli & Linda Frank, Ryan Moskal, Kathleen James, Diane & Jim Crawford, Jasper Schad, Henry McKenzie, John & Rochelle Bain, Robert & Barbara DeMaria, Joy Peterson, Sherry Sawyer, Steven Chester, Grace Ryan, Kathi Barnes, Harry Kluckhohn, Eugene de Christopher & Nan Ayers

For a Voice in Your Neighborhood Join Telegraph Hill Dwellers.

NEW MEMBER INFORMATION

Sign Up or Sign a Friend Up as a member of Telegraph Hill Dwellers. Complete and mail to THD, PO Box 330159, SF, CA 94133

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL: _____

CHECK ENCLOSED FOR 1-YEAR MEMBERSHIP

Individual $25 ___ Household $40 ___ Senior (age 65 and over) $15 ___

ISTITUTO ITALIANO SCUOLA
425 Washington Street, Suite 100
San Francisco, California 94111
Ph: 415.788.0242 Fax: 415.788.6389
e-mail: italianschool@sfiis.org
www.sfiis.org

italian language, cinema, opera lyrics, history, regional cuisine, art, architecture, travel to italy, see films from our vast library, our exhibits, attend our numerous lectures and events

Fog Hill Market

Hanna Chedyak
415-781-8817
1300 Kearny
San Francisco, CA 94133

THD COMMITTEES NEED YOU

You can make a difference! Join one of THD's committees, meet and work with your fellow Hill Dwellers to improve life on the Hill.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Parking and Transportation. Chair, Bill Seelinger, 392-8450 billseel@aol.com. Promotes efforts to ease congestion, optimize white zones, upgrade public transportation. Works with Department of Parking and Traffic.

Planning and Zoning. Chair, Jeannie Milligan, Jeanne_M@pacbell.net. Monitors and reviews proposed development projects for consistency with applicable City ordinances. Works with Planning Department staff and represents THD before the Landmarks Board, Planning Commission, Zoning Administrator and other regulating bodies to protect historic resources and maintain neighborhood character. Assists members to learn more about and participate in planning and zoning issues.

Semaphore. Editor, Art Peterson 956-7817; artpeterson@writingproject.org. The editor and staff produce a quarterly magazine for THD members.

Program. Chair, Pat Swan, 788-7926; 439 Greenwich #7B, pswan@visa.com. Arranges social events, including quarterly membership meetings and get-acquainted social functions.

Budget. Greg Chiampou, 834-9338; gchiampou@att.net. As prescribed in bylaws for Treasurer.

Membership. Chair, Sarah Kliban, 781-2278, casting@value.net. As prescribed in Bylaws for Financial Secretary.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES AND PROJECTS

Parks and Trees. Chair, Jennifer Moerer, 5 Edith St. 265-0317, jmoerer@gmacl.com. Information and projects concerning local parks, green spaces and street trees.

Oral History Project Audrey Tomaselli, 391-1792; tmsli@sonic.net. Rozell Overmire, 939-3949, rozell@weach.comTaped interviews provide historical documentation of living and working in the neighborhood.

THD Web Site. Webmaster, Michael Mallone, 392-8227; webmaster@thd.org. Shared information about meetings, local concerns and events.

LIAISONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods. Representative, Gerry Crowley, 781-4201; gerrycrowley@aol.com. City-wide organization interacts with other neighborhoods to discuss common problems.

North Beach Neighborhood Coalition. Representative, Gerry Crowley. 781-4201; gerrycrowley@aol.com. Tel-Hi-sponsored group of residents, merchants and government agencies working together to address neighborhood issues.

N.E.R.T. June Fraps, 392-1187; junefraps@juno.com. Energizes members to take emergency disaster response training program sponsored by the City.

WEB SITE = www.thd.org

Whether you want to catch up on THD's Oral Histories, see what the THD is up to, or submit old photos of the Hill, www.thd.org is the place to go. Use the Web site to discover or email information about upcoming meetings in the neighborhood and at City agencies, and ideas and concerns you want the rest of us to know about between *Semaphores*.

sem.a.phore

DEFINITION: To convey information using visual signals, such as flags, lights and mechanical arms.

In the 19th century, Telegraph Hill was a lookout spot. A man stood at the top and watched for ships arriving through the Golden Gate. He used semaphore signals to spell out ships' names to the people below who were waiting for goods and mail. Neighbors who formed Telegraph Hill Dwellers in 1954 named their newsletter to salute this early use of the Hill.

TELEGRAPH HILL DWELLERS
P. O. BOX 33159
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94133

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SAN FRANCISCO, CA
PERMIT NO. 6781

THD CALENDAR

Second Saturday stair and garden work parties at Pioneer Park: November 12, December 10 and January 14. For more information call 552-7774.

MONTHLY HAPPY HOURS:
THD Social Hours—2nd Wednesday of each month as follows: Watch your email for locations.

November
Wednesday, November 9th

December
Wednesday, December 14th

January
"Happy New Year" happy hour, Wednesday, Jan. 11th

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL on Grant AVE, THD co-sponsers with Delilah Crown, Saturday the 3rd of December

THD Annual Holiday Party at Julius Castle, December 4th @ 2-4 pm

Schedules of Committee Meetings

PLANNING & ZONING: First Thursdays. Call for time and location. 986-7070.

For more information, log on to http://www.thd.org